AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A content item provisioning method, comprising the steps:

storing content items ~~or data defining access to content items~~ for provision to users;

maintaining, for at least one user, ~~one or more users,~~ respective content access data usable to determine which stored content items ~~or data defining access to content items~~ may be provided to the ~~respective~~ users;

receiving content items ~~or data defining access to content items~~ from a particular user ~~users~~ for provision to the users;

changing the respective content access data for said particular user ~~those users~~ from which content items ~~or data defining access to content items~~ are received; and

providing a sub-set of the stored content items ~~or data defining access to content items~~ to said particular ~~a~~ user, ~~the~~ members of the sub-set being determined in dependence on the respective content access data of said particular ~~the~~ user,

wherein each stored content item ~~or set of data defining access to a content item~~ has a property ~~having a~~ value, and the content access data comprises a content access value relating to the property value, wherein the sub-set of the content items ~~or data defining access to content items~~ is determined in dependence on the respective property values.

2. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 1, wherein the property values and content access values are times and/or dates.

3. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 1, wherein the property values and content access values are geographical positions.

4. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 1, wherein multiple sets of content items ~~or data defining access to content items~~ are stored, and respective content access data is maintained for one or more of the sets of content items ~~or data defining access to content items~~.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 4, wherein content access data for one set is changed in dependence on ~~the~~ receipt from users of content items ~~or data defining access to content items~~ for that set.

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 4, wherein content access data for one set is changed in dependence on ~~the~~ receipt from users of content items ~~or data defining access to content items~~ for another set or sets.

7. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 1, wherein the content access values are changed so as to increase the content items ~~or data defining access to content items~~ provided in the sub-set.

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 1, wherein the content access values are changed to give a fixed change in the content items ~~or data defining access to content items~~ with which the users are provided in the sub-set.

9. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 1, and further comprising the step of receiving rating data specifying a rating given to a content item by a user, ~~user from one or more users,~~ wherein the changing step comprises changing

the content access value for the user from which the content item ~~or data defining access to the content item~~ which was rated was received in dependence on the received rating data.

10. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 9, wherein the rating is weighted according to the content access value of the rating user.

11. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 1, wherein the changing step further comprises receiving requests for specific content items ~~or data defining access to content items~~ from the users, and changing the content access value for the user from which the requested content item ~~or data defining access to content~~ was received.

12. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 1, wherein the changing step further comprises monitoring ~~the~~ time or date at which a first content item ~~or data defining access to a content item~~ is received in relation to the time or date a second content item ~~or data defining access to a content item~~ is received, and changing the content access value of the user from ~~the~~ which the first content item ~~or data defining access to a content item~~ was received in dependence on a ~~the~~ difference between the times and/or dates.

13. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 1, wherein the changing step further comprises monitoring the time since the receipt of a content item ~~or data defining access to a content item,~~ and changing the content access value of the user from which the content item ~~or data defining access to the content item~~ was received in dependence on the monitored time.

14. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 1, and further comprising the step of permitting a user to perform manipulations of the stored content items ~~or data defining access to content items~~ in dependence on the user's content access value. ~~level.~~

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ method according to claim 1, collectively performed by at least a sub-set of peers within a peer to peer network.

16. (Currently Amended) A computer program or suite of computer programs stored on a computer module storage medium and arranged such that when executed by a computer system or a plurality of computer systems it/they cause the computer system or systems to perform the method of claim 1.

Claim 17 (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) A content item provisioning system, comprising:

content storage arranged in use to store content items ~~or data defining access to content items~~ for provision to users;

data storage arranged in use to store, for at least one user, ~~or more users,~~ respective content access data usable to determine which stored content items ~~or data defining access to content items~~ may be provided to the ~~respective~~ users;

first receiving means for receiving content items ~~or data defining access to content items~~ from a particular user ~~users~~ for provision to the users;

a data processor arranged in use:

i) to change the respective content access data for said particular user ~~those users~~ from which content items ~~or data defining access to content items~~ are received; and

ii) determine a sub-set of the content items ~~or data defining access to content~~ in dependence on the content access data of said particular ~~a~~ user; and

means for providing the determined sub-set to said particular ~~the~~ user,

wherein each stored content item ~~or set of data defining access to a content item~~ has a property ~~having a~~ value, and the content access data comprises a content access value relating to the property value, wherein the sub-set of the content items ~~or data defining access to content items~~ is determined in dependence on the respective property values.

19. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ system according to claim 18, wherein the property values and content access values are times and/or dates.

20. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ system according to claim 18, wherein the property values and content access values are geographical positions.

21. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ system according to claim 18, wherein multiple sets of content items ~~or data defining access to content items~~ are stored in the content storage, and respective content access data is stored in the data storage for each set of content items ~~or data defining access to content items~~.

22. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ system according to claim 21, wherein content access data for one set is changed in dependence on ~~the~~ receipt from users of content items ~~or data defining access to content items~~ for that set.

23. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ system according to claim 21, wherein content access data for one set is changed in dependence on ~~the~~ receipt from users of content items ~~or data defining access to content items~~ for another set or sets.

24. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ system according to claim 18, wherein the content access values are changed so as to increase the content items ~~or data defining access to content items~~ provided in the sub-set.

25. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ system according to claim 18, wherein the content access values are changed to give a fixed change in the content items ~~or data defining access to content items~~ with which the users are provided in the sub-set.

26. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ system according to claim 18, and further comprising means for receiving rating data specifying a rating given to a content item by a user from one or more users, wherein the data processor is further arranged to change the content access value for the user from which the content item ~~or data defining access to the content item~~ which was rated was received in dependence on the received rating data.

27. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ system according to claim 26, wherein the rating is weighted according to the content access value of the rating user.

28. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ system according to claim 18, further comprising means for receiving requests for specific content items ~~or data defining access to content items~~ from the users, and the data processor is further arranged to change the content access value for the user from which the requested content item ~~or data defining access to content~~ was received.

29. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ system according to claim 18, further comprising a monitor to monitor ~~the~~ time or date at which a first content item ~~or data~~

~~defining access to a content item~~is received in relation to the time or date a second content item ~~or data defining access to a content item~~ is received, wherein the data processor is further arranged to change the content access value of the user from ~~the~~ which the first content item ~~or data defining access to a content item~~ was received in dependence on a ~~the~~ difference between the times and/or dates.

30. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ system according to claim 18, further comprising a monitor to monitor the time elapsed since the receipt of a content item ~~or data defining access to a content item~~, the data processor being further arranged to change the content access value of the user from which the content item ~~or data defining access to the content item~~ was received in dependence on the monitored time.

31. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ system according to claim 18, and further comprising content item manipulation means arranged in use to permit a user to perform manipulations of the stored content items ~~or data defining access to content items~~ in dependence on the user's content access value. ~~level.~~

32. (Currently Amended) The ~~A~~ system according to claim 18, collectively embodied by at least a sub-set of peers within a peer to peer network.

33. (New) A content item provisioning method, comprising the steps:

storing data defining access to content items for provision to users;

maintaining, for at least one user, respective content access data usable to determine which stored data defining access to content items may be provided to the users;

receiving data defining access to content items from a particular user for provision to the users;

changing the respective content access data for said particular user from which data defining access to content items are received; and

providing a sub-set of the stored data defining access to content items to said particular user, members of the sub-set being determined in dependence on the respective content access data of said particular user,

wherein each stored data defining access to a content item has a property value, and the content access data comprises a content access value relating to the property value, wherein the sub-set of the data defining access to content items is determined in dependence on the respective property values.

34. (New) A content item provisioning system, comprising:

content storage arranged in use to store data defining access to content items for provision to users;

data storage arranged in use to store, for at least one user, respective content access data usable to determine which stored data defining access to content items may be provided to the users;

first receiving means for receiving data defining access to content items from a particular user for provision to the users;

a data processor arranged in use:

i) to change the respective content access data for said particular user from which data defining access to content items are received; and

ii) determine a sub-set of the data defining access to content items in dependence on the content access data of said particular user; and

means for providing the determined sub-set to said particular user,

wherein each stored data defining access to content items has a property value, and the content access data comprises a content access value relating to the property

value, wherein the sub-set of the data defining access to content items is determined in dependence on the respective property values.